

LITERARY EDITION

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THE ROAD AHEAD

It has been said, quoted, and requested that "Man cannot live for the present hour alone, but must always be sowing seed for the future harvest." This is surely applicable to the situation in which we find ourselves.

It seems that many of us have lost the balance in life. We feel the need for excitement, and yet we are empty in our restlessness. We are forgetting the joys of family life. Our emotions are over stimulated by material attractions and artificial settings of luxury. We are losing the incentive to work and somewhat accepting the defeatist attitude. The moral fiber of our community is in a measure disintegrating. Such is not true in all cases, but its presence is undeniable.

All of us must begin to work for self-improvement; we must begin to appreciate the life that is simple, natural, and good. Through these values of life there will arise the flame of courage that will burn brightly on our horizon, and never again shall we find it necessary to say "back to the good old days in California."

The road that lies ahead for the Young People's Christian Fellowship is all untrod; perchance, some greater good than we have known is waiting for us. Let us join hands in going forth to build the bond of Christian Fellowship through which we may grow and find the greatest degree of stability, peace, and happiness in the days to come.

By Fred Koyama, President, YPCF

OUR GOAL: A SHINING CHRISTIAN

Disgusted and weary from the thought of relocation and parting of friends, I entered our Assembly Center post office. Following the "Jones", I asked for some post cards. A man, with a kind face and beaming with smile, asked, "Are you leaving soon?" I replied "Probably to Arkansas."

As he stood there counting the post cards, I realized something different about him. Yes, something was different about him.

He stopped me as I started to go. He related to me his experiences in Arkansas. Of the mosquitoes and malaria. Also described the disease-carrying mosquitoes. Mentally, I was already in Rohwer, detesting the insects and rain; making imaginary pictures in my mind.

Thanking him I left. As I made way toward my stable, I thought what could it be that made him different from his co-workers. Finally the day before leaving came. Sister had this certain man sign in her autograph book, as I found out later, he was her customer before evacuation. Then I knew it for he had written a Bible verse. He had hold of our Saviour as His Personal Saviour.

Let us shine as this man did. Let his good works be seen in us.

***** A Member *****

GOD'S DREAMS

Dreams are they--but they are God's dreams!

Shall we decry them and scorn them?
That men shall love one another,
That white shall call black man brother,
That greed shall pass from the market place,

That lust shall yield to love for the race,
That man shall meet with God face to face--

Dreams are they all,
But shall we despise them--
God's dreams!

Dreams are they--to become man's dreams!
Can we say nay as they claim us?
That men shall cease from their hating,
That war shall soon be abating,
That the glory of kings and lords shall pale,

That the pride of dominion and power shall fail,
That the love of humanity shall prevail.
Dreams are they all,
But shall we despise them--
God's dreams!

Thomas Curtis Clark

STEWARDSHIP IN CHRIST

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.

This past elective period for the YPCF cabinet members has, indeed, proved a test of our earnest desire to serve the church in whatever chosen capacity. We hope that our humble efforts have somewhat furthered the truths upon which Christian faith must be firmly based. What little we as a group have contributed to that end cannot be measured in terms of any tangible growth, either individually or collectively.

Stronger in self conviction; more profound in Christian beliefs, and full in its manifold blessings, has been the profitable privilege to serve Our Lord, through willing stewardship in our sincere endeavor to guide others to that Abundant way of life. May the challenge to serve your fellowmen, through active participation in the church, urge you to offer your stewardship in whatever opportunity you feel capable of accepting, and more importantly cheerfully, when requested to serve.

Let us by what trifle, it may seem, submit our stewardship to Christ, for the future will surely reckon its efforts and value, by Christian character and personality truly worthy His name.

Past President; YPCF

Walter Saito

We of the new cabinet beseech of Our Lord "in whom are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge hidden" his guidance and help in carrying out our duties to the best of our abilities. We are honored by the confidence you have placed in us, and we ask of your cooperation so that we may work as one in enjoying and attaining the greatest degree of Christian Fellowship. May these fellowship hours give us opportunities through which we can immeasurably widen our sphere of friendship and discover persons who may become our life long friends. It was Elizabeth Browning who once asked of Charles Kingsley, "What is the secret of our life? Tell me so that I may make mine beautiful." "I had a friend," was the reply, and that is really the epitome of many a noble and successful life.

Sooner or later, all of us will be leaving this Center, and may our activities in the Young People's Christian Fellowship be such that it will be a source of many happy reminiscence.

The New Y.P.C.F. Cabinet

The most impressive and the happiest occasion of my life is the day when I was baptized, giving up myself to His service, and to be His humble servant. How wonderful to know that "we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." After we are baptized, we are dead unto sin but alive unto God through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Through the years to come, I will walk before Him in righteousness and praise Him for showing me the way to His kingdom. Though the road to eternal life & righteousness is a narrow path, and we may face troubles and difficulties, our gracious Lord is there to guide us and help us. Let us thank our precious Lord and Saviour for leading us and guiding us through the strait and narrow path for "the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord".

Mabel Nakamura

YOUR EPITAPH

Wouldn't it be interesting to be able to hear what people say about you after you die? And wouldn't it be interesting to judge the things they say, to see if they are true? A great man in the eyes of the world may die and people laud him to the sky, and say all manner of good things about him, & write a wonderful Epitaph on his tombstone. But I wonder, how many of the things are sincerely true?

A poor ordinary man, who has the riches of Christ in his soul, may leave his life and he isn't missed by the world. No one says what a wonderful man he was, and his tombstone is engraved with just plain "John Jones."

Friends, it isn't the praise of man that truly makes a man great, it's what he was in the eyes of God. My friend, as you travel along in this life you are writing your own epitaph. I wonder what it will say, when you come to the end of the way? Will it say: "He knew how to pray, and loved religion? He wasn't afraid nor ashamed to talk about God to those with whom he came in contact?" Or will it say, "Here lies the body of one whose daily life was a sermon, and whose conversation left no bitterness"?

The greatest thing that could be said of a mortal is, he knew how to pray. Prayer is what makes you great in the sight of God and enriches your immortal soul for time and eternity.

If the things that we say were to be summed up and put on our tombstone, I wonder how it would read. Friends, I'm afraid many of us would be ashamed to read our own epitaph. The bitter stinging words we've often times said about a brother--well, they just wouldn't look nice in writing.

You and I are writing our own Epitaph as through life we go, so why not make it a good one. May it read: "He was a man of God. People loved to see him coming down the street because of the Christ that dwelt within him, and the smile that shone upon his face." Let us try with the help of God and with much prayer and faith.

Ruth Niiya

COURAGE

Ye are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a lamp and put it under the bushel but on the stand; and it shineth unto all that are in the house. Even so let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

II Timothy 3: 16

